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REUTERS BEST



JUNE 25 - JULY 1

Reuters



GENERAL - Reuters was [first to report](#) that one of America's most prominent flag makers, Valley Forge Flags, would no longer produce confederate flags and [captured the reaction](#) of the mostly African-American employees inside a Valley Forge Flag factory following the company's decision. Opposition to the flag has recently spiked after pictures surfaced of Dylann Roof, the man charged with attacking worshipers at a black church in Charleston, South Carolina, posing beside the flag. Reuters also gave readers an [inside look](#) at the white supremacist world that helped shape Roof.

Reuters



GENERAL - Reuters [exclusively reported](#) that a spike in earthquakes across Oklahoma is forcing the state's energy regulator to urgently consider tougher restrictions on drilling activity. There have been 35 earthquakes of magnitude 3.0 or greater in the state from June 17 to 24, roughly two months after new rules governing the disposal of briny wastewater from drilling took full effect. Particularly worrying for regulators, some of the recent quakes occurred in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area, where there are no high-volume wastewater injection wells.

Reuters



POLITICS - Reuters [offered insight](#) into how the landmark ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court legalizing gay marriage, left many questions unanswered and is likely to spark future legal battles. In America, the right to marry represents only one piece in the evolving legal framework for gay civil rights and currently no constitutional principle or nationwide law broadly prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation. Advocates on both sides said the ruling will likely spawn a new round of litigation in areas such as parental rights and spousal benefits, as well as religion.

BUSINESS - Reuters took an [in-depth look](#) at how scientists who have devoted years developing medicines to cure disease, are now working for tobacco companies to make e-cigarettes. Philip Morris International (PMI) and Marlboro maker Altria Group,

Reuters

have been recruiting from the pharmaceutical industry with what they say is the goal of improving the current generation of e-cigarettes and, where possible, providing evidence that they reduce the risk of disease.

Reuters



BUSINESS - Reuters provided a [rare glimpse](#) into how one company is dealing with cyber attacks by Chinese counterfeit rings. Few organizations publicly discuss the \$160 billion worth of intellectual property stolen by hackers from Western businesses every year, but Australian firm Codan Ltd is ramping up its defenses. The company is introducing encrypted products, employs three or four people to work full-time on preventing hacking-led counterfeiting and has hired a lawyer whose sole role is to coordinate those efforts.

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